

AMENDMENTS TO ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as shown below:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~—The invention provides an exhaust gas purification apparatus which can efficiently purify HC in exhaust gas of an engine upon cold starting of the engine.—~~The exhaust gas purification apparatus for an engine comprises, a catalytic converter provided in an exhaust path of the engine and including a carrier, an HC absorbent, an HC purifying catalyst, and a transition metal, and a control apparatus for controlling operation of the engine, the control apparatus including an HC desorption timing estimation section for estimating a timing at which the HC is desorbed from the HC absorbent and a control section for controlling an air fuel ratio upon starting of the engine to a ratio richer than a stoichiometric air fuel ratio to start operation of the engine and changing over the air fuel ratio to a ratio leaner than the stoichiometric air fuel ratio at the timing at which the HC is desorbed based on an output of the HC desorption timing estimation section.